

News-Messenger reports

MANSFIELD — Ben Valentine's grand slam was all the offense Ashland needed Tuesday as it eliminated Fremont Ross from the baseball sectional for the second straight season.

The Little Giants outhit the Arrows 8-3, but Ashland earned a 5-2 victory in the Division I tournament at Madison High School.

Ross led 2-0 entering the bottom of the third. But with two outs, three straight Arrows reached base. Valentine followed by crushing a 3-2 pitch from Ross starter Adam Garcia.

Garcia surrendered five earned runs and the three hits. Josh Harnish and Clint Coonrod relieved and allowed no runs or hits.

"Our pitching staff did well," Ross head coach Chuck Lindsey said. "They got that one big hit. Like just about every other game we've played, one big inning did us in."

Dash Yost and Gabe Sanchez had two hits apiece for the Little Giants (8-11).

Brian Miller went the distance for Ashland, beating Ross for the second straight year. He gave up two earned runs and eight hits while striking out two and walking two.

Ross is at Sandusky today.